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# STATE OF DELAWARE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY & LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room A, Second floor of the Cannon Building

MINUTES APPROVED: March 12, 2015

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Michael Harrington Christopher Whitfield Andy Staton Justin Healy Jason Giles

## **DIVISION STAFF/ DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Kevin Maloney, Deputy Attorney General Sandra Wagner, Administrative Specialist III

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Danielle Benson, Real Estate Education Committee Angela Emerson, SCAOR

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Harrington called the meeting to order at 10:55 a.m.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Subcommittee reviewed the minutes from the November 13, 2014 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Staton, seconded by Mr. Giles, to approve the minutes. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Discussion: Online Companies conducting Real Estate

Mr. Staton stated that maybe today it would be a good time to have some of the Commissioners research on how other states handle online companies and bring that research back to the next sub-committee for discussion. Mr. Staton stated that he does not think we should only be looking at online companies and should be looking at out of state offices as well. Mr. Whitfield stated that someone from the Commission should contact ARELLO and find out what they say about certain situations when it comes to working with an online company or out of state company. Mr. Staton stated that he may be going to the ARELLO conference this year. After

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discussion, Mr. Staton and Mr. Healy will work on getting some research together by the next meeting on how other states handle online companies and out of state companies.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Discussion of Continuing Education/60 Day late renewal

Ms. Wagner explained to the sub-committee that licensees still confuse the 60 day late renewal with having extra time to complete their continuing education. Licensees feel that the 60 day late renewal gives them time to complete their continuing education instead of having it completed by the actual due date of April 30 of even years. If the Commission changes the rules to take away the 60 day late renewal, then licensees will still have to pay the same price for renewal if done after April 30<sup>th</sup>. Licensees will then need to fill out a reinstatement application and have the Commission approve it. This will catch those licensees that miss renewing their licenses after April 30<sup>th</sup> and will cut down on the amount of audits because there will no longer be a need to review 100 % of late renewers.

Mr. Staton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Healy, to take this discussion to the Commission for approval to do away with the 60 day late renewal. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

## OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE (for discussion only)

Mr. Staton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harrington, to add under "discussion only" the topic of online continuing education courses verses being in a classroom.

Ms. Benson from the Education Committee spoke about the thoughts the Education Committee had on this topic and why. These discussions stem from reviewing the audits every 2 years and having licensees take all the continuing education on the very last day of renewal. After some research the Education Committee found on ARELLO there are online courses that can actually take someone 20 minutes to complete, but as the guidelines state courses need to be at least 3 hours long. The Education Committee has always approved ARELLO courses; however they are finding out now that ARELLO has three different stages in continuing education, beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Advanced courses are designation courses and are absolutely timed required, intermediate is time required, but beginner courses are not time required. Being able to take a course in less than 20 minutes, Ms. Benson stated that the Education Committee feels that this is a disservice to the public. Ms. Benson stated that ARELLO needs to be contacted to tell them that the Commission has a time requirement of 3 hours per course. The thoughts behind requiring a licensee to only be allowed to take 9 hours of online courses per renewal of online courses per renewal and for newly licensed persons to only be able to take classroom courses, makes sense to the Education Committee when other Boards, Commissions, and Councils within the division require some classroom hours. Since this was just a discussion at this point, Mr. Harrington has asked a member of the Education Committee to come to March's sub-committee meeting with their research so the sub-committee can vote on whether this is something they would like to move towards and refer to the Commission for final approval. Mr. Staton would like to actually see testing in the classrooms after a course has been taken.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

# **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

Next meeting - March 12, 2015

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Giles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whitfield to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Wagner

Administrative Specialist III

The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Board members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall for presentations.